

SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT FACT SHEET

Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Bureau of Substance Abuse Services

February, 2002

This fact sheet contains information about the impact of alcohol and other drug use in the Fourteenth Essex Representative District. Admission data were reported to the Bureau of Substance Abuse Services (BSAS) Substance Abuse Management Information System in FY 2001.

Residents of Fourteenth Essex Representative District

Treatment Admissions:

In FY 2001, there were 120,687 admissions to licensed substance abuse treatment services in all of Massachusetts. Of these, 2.2% (2,657) reside in the Fourteenth Essex Representative District. Due to budget cuts in FY 2002, BSAS estimates that 19% (505) of Fourteenth Essex Representative District residents will not be able to access treatment services. **Please note that these statistics represent only individual admissions, and represent a figure lower than the actual number of constituents in need of treatment services.**

- In FY 2001, 76.5% of admissions from the Fourteenth Essex Representative District were male and 23.5% were female.
- Over 65.8% of admissions were between the ages of 21-39.
- 70.6% of admissions were white non-Latino, 3.5% were black non-Latino, 51.6% were Latino, 0.4% were Asian, and 4.0% were other racial categories.
- 65.1% of those admitted to treatment were never married, 13.3% were married, and 12.6% reported not to be married now.
- 45.6% of admissions had less than high school education, 42.1% completed high school, and 12.3% had more than high school education.
- 25.5% of those admitted to treatment were employed.
- 20.3% of those admitted were homeless.
- 11.2% of admissions had prior mental health treatment.

Substances Used in Past Year:

Upon entering treatment, each client is asked to report ALL substances used in the past year (12 months) prior to admission. Admissions frequently report using more than one substance within the year. The use of more than one psychoactive substance, such as alcohol and marijuana, is referred to as 'polydrug' or 'polysubstance' use. For example, individuals who use cocaine, crack and heroin also may report the use of either alcohol and/or marijuana.

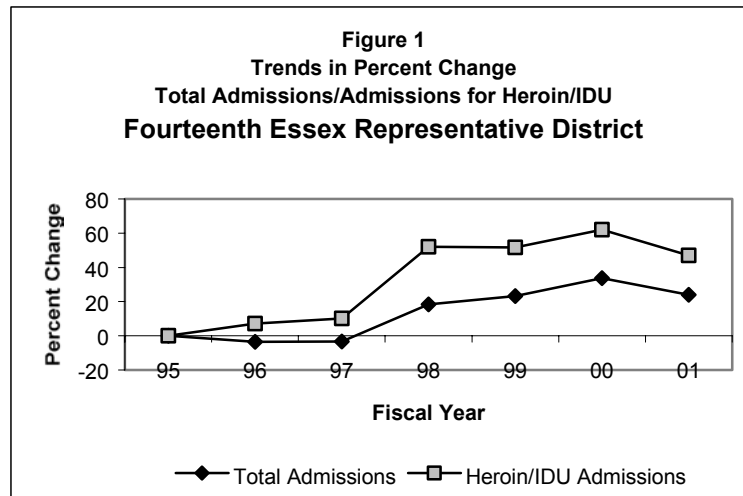
- Table 1 shows ALL substances which clients reported using in the year prior to admission, including the prevalence of injection drug use (IDU) in the Fourteenth Essex Representative District. Injection drug users (or IDU's) are individuals who use a needle to ingest cocaine, crack, heroin or another drug to get high.

Table 1 Annual Admissions by Substance Used FY 1995 – FY 2001							
Fourteenth Essex Representative District							
	Total	Alcohol	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack	Heroin	IDU
FY '95	2,144	1,420	593	707	717	994	597
FY '96	2,068	1,396	613	595	588	1,052	652
FY '97	2,074	1,280	480	561	503	1,066	686
FY '98	2,539	1,475	639	702	434	1,446	974
FY '99	2,643	1,519	706	801	485	1,476	938
FY '00	2,867	1,705	868	902	532	1,535	1,043
FY '01	2,657	1,506	756	844	406	1,423	915

- Since FY 1995, residents of Fourteenth Essex Representative District reported a decrease in crack use, but an increase in all other drug categories.
- Between FY 1995 and FY 2001, admissions reporting alcohol use increased by 6%, marijuana by 27%, cocaine by 19%, and heroin use by 43%, while crack use decreased by 43%.

Heroin and Injection Drug Use:

Figure 1 below shows the proportional increases in all admissions in the Fourteenth Essex Representative District and the proportional increase in admissions reporting heroin and injection drug use, a factor driving increases in HIV¹.



- Total treatment admission for all modalities rose 24% between FY 1995 and FY 2001. During the same period, admissions for heroin and injection drug use treatment increased by 47%.

Primary Substance of Use:

At admission clients also identify a “primary drug” of use which is the substance currently causing them the most problems.

- Table 2 compares the proportional distribution of primary drugs in Massachusetts with that for the Fourteenth Essex Representative District.

	Alcohol	Heroin	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack
District	26.6%	54.7%	7.1%	5.0%	3.4%
State	46.5%	35.9%	6.5%	3.9%	3.4%

- While crack as a primary drug of use in your Representative District was level with the State average, heroin, marijuana, and cocaine as a primary drug was higher, and alcohol was lower within your District.

¹ The Schneider Institute for Health Policy, Brandeis University, 2000